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TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE MEETS IN BEIRUT 31 DEC

NC311257 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Dec 79 NC

[Text] The Lebanese-Palestinian-Arab tripartite meeting is currently taking place in government house to discuss the implementation of the 10th Arab summit conference resolutions on Lebanon, particularly those dealing with southern Lebanon, and the dispatch of the Lebanese Army to the area to restore Lebanese law and sovereignty as well as consolidate state authority.

Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss presided over the tripartite meeting in his office in government house this morning. The meeting was attended, on the Lebanese side, by Defense Minister Joseph Skaf and Finance Minister Dr 'Ali al-Khalil, and on the Palestinian side by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat; head of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi; Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad; and Brig Gen Sa'd Sayil--alias Abu al-Walid. The meeting was also attended by members of the Arab followup committee consisting of Saudi Ambassador Gen 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, Kuwaiti Ambassador 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bu'ayjan, and Arab League representative Hammad at-Tib. Syria's representative, Col Muhammad Ghanim, was absent from the meeting. The meeting was also attended by Arab Deterrent Forces Commander Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib.

Al-Huss, 'Arafat Statements

NC311513 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 31 Dec 79 NC

[Text] After today's tripartite meeting at government house, which lasted until 1415, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss made a statement in which he said that the Palestinian leaders have affirmed the PLO's readiness to cooperate with the Lebanese Government to facilitate the implementation of the Tunis summit resolutions, particularly to facilitate the deployment of the army in the south.

Prime Minister al-Huss began his statement by referring to what was discussed at today's meeting. He said: Discussion dealt with the role which the Palestinian resistance can play in facilitating the work of the Lebanese authority to implement the Tunis summit resolutions, particularly with regard to the reestablishment of state authority in the south and the dispatch of the Lebanese Army to the south.

Dr al-Huss added: The Palestinian leaders, led by Yasir 'Arafat, affirmed the readiness of the PLO to cooperate with the Lebanese Government to facilitate the implementation of the Tunis summit resolutions, especially to facilitate the deployment of the army in the south.

The atmosphere of the meeting was extremely positive. President Sarkis will chair a meeting of the Arab committee on Thursday morning to continue discussing this subject and decide the next steps which must be taken.

After the meeting Prime Minister al-Huss held a meeting with Ministers Skaf and al-Khalil.

Yasir 'Arafat also made the following statement: We informed the brothers of the readiness of the Palestinian resistance to provide all the necessary facilities for the entry of the Lebanese Army into the south, just as I have done in the past. The Lebanese authority has already dispatched two army units to Kawkabah and south of Al-Litani. We offered every assistance in view of the fact that we and the Lebanese Army stand in one trench in the face of the Zionist enemy.

I hope that the Lebanese authority and the army will be able to impose government authority over all Lebanese territory up to the international border between Palestine and Lebanon.

In reply to a question, 'Arafat said: I do not want to interfere in anything that does not concern me. The Lebanese Army has the right to draw up all necessary plans and subjects, and I will offer all the assistance I can. He added: What I say is what I believe in. I want the Lebanese Army to come and bear with me the daily Israeli shelling. I hope the army will defend Lebanese territory.

'ARAFAT MESSAGE ON PALESTINE REVOLUTION REPORTED

LD021350 Algiers Voice of the Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 Jan 80 LD

[Text] The Palestinian people, the militants of our Arab nation and free and revolutionary people in the world, celebrate today the 15th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution under the leadership of Al-Fatah. On this occasion Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the forces of the Palestine revolution, addressed a message today to the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied land, to the fighters and the Arab nation.

He stressed that the 16th year of the revolution should be one of revolutionary upsurge and change. Brother Abu 'Ammar described the 15th year of the revolution, which ended yesterday, as one of steadfastness in face of the fiercest war of attrition; a year of outstanding diplomatic successes which penetrated the impregnable European wall which had long remained a monopoly of Israel and Zionism.

The brother leader called for a deep understanding of the nature of the enemy we are fighting and his allies. He paid tribute to the outstanding stand of the Palestinian people inside the occupied land against the autonomy farce and the tripartite Camp David plot, adding: Our people will continue to challenge all attempts to impose on them a formula on this autonomy, and will tear it up as they have torn the tripartite plot of Camp David.

The commander in chief, Abu 'Ammar, emphasized that there can be no peace, stability, security or solutions in this region except through a Palestinian peace. Let it be understood that peace and stability are realizable only through the will of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian revolutionaries--a peace based on the inalienable national rights of Palestinians, an independent state on our Palestinian national territory, and a peace of our Arab nation and its will. The Palestinian peace and Arab peace are interlinked in their roots, past and future, because they constitute a true association of the vital and historical interests of our Arab nation on the grounds that the Palestinian question is the central hub of the struggle of our Arab nation in face of all challenges.

Our Arab nation is about to witness the rise of a new dawn and the rebirth of the great nation on all political, military, cultural, social and intellectual levels. Its interests are fatefully linked to all strategies of the region.

The leader brother Abu 'Ammar praised the cohesion of the Arab nation with the Iranian people's revolution and all national, democratic and progressive forces in the region, adding: The inevitability of confrontation which springs from the reality of the conflict now raging in our region must be based on the principles of the strategic distinction between friends and foes. We must see who our friends and enemies are. [Words indistinct] the camp of friends and allies of the Islamic, African, nonalined, socialist and friendly states.

This would enable us to impose the will of our people on the camp of the enemies, the blood-suckers of peoples and the monopolizers of their resources, by means of revolutionary escalation but not by insulting concessions, or by offering the Nile water to the Zionist enemy or begging humiliating agreements from world imperialists.

Brother Abu 'Ammar stressed the importance of the Palestinian national unity inside and outside the occupied land under the banner of the PLO. He called for making the 16th year of the revolution a year of revolutionary march along the road of the major objective, the year of a change in the region and the greater Arab homeland in the direction of Palestine.

In conclusion the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces said: We tackled the impossible together when we put our destitute people back on the political map of the region, where it is now a basic and [word indistinct] element in the Middle East equation. We shall tackle the impossible once again and stand against the challenge to our destiny, facing our objective along the Palestinian road to Jerusalem, where we can raise our banner high on its minarets and towers.

Iran's Montazeri on Anniversary

NC021405 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1145 GMT 2 Jan 80 NC

[Speech by Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Montazeri at celebration in Beirut on 1 January, the Palestinian revolution's 15th anniversary--recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of the merciful and compassionate God, greetings from the people of Iran, [applause] greetings from the land of martyrs, greetings from the land of Imam Khomeyni, [applause, cheers] greetings from all of them to you Palestinian and Lebanese brothers and sisters, [applause, cheers] to the oppressed Arab and Islamic brothers and sisters, and to your brother commander of the Palestinian revolution, Abu 'Ammar. [applause, cheers]

Our presence among you demonstrates the internationalism of the Islamic revolution and the revolution of the oppressed in the world. The victory of the revolution in Iran does not only affect Iranians; it affects all oppressed peoples in the world. We have taken from the world and now have begun giving to the world, beginning with Palestine. Hundreds of Iranian brothers and sisters have come to the Arab area to fight by your side. [applause, cheers] We consider American imperialism and Zionism a world [word indistinct] and we, the oppressed, are working on the international level. In this context, we support the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and all the oppressed peoples. [applause, and cheers] The masses in Iran support the oppressed peoples. God willing, through our blood, faith and weapons we will triumph over American imperialism and Zionism. [applause, cheers]

When we decided to send men and women volunteers to the Arab area, clamor was raised by (?Haddad) and here and there, by [word indistinct], the United Nations, and the sectarian institutions that work only for the benefit of the exploiting imperialists. Yes, institutions, men, and agents began opposing us. But, we listen to no one but God and the oppressed. [applause]

PALESTINIAN LEADER ATTACKS FATAH'S POLICIES

LD301225 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0722 GMT 30 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 30 Dec--In a press interview published here today, the dissenting Palestinian leader Naji 'Allush, secretary general of the Arab Popular Liberation Movement, strongly attacked the PLO and the Fatah fedayeen movement for following in the steps of Egypt by seeking a peaceful solution for the Palestine issue.

In his interview, published in AL-QABAS, 'Allush said that the PLO leadership began liquidating all internal opposition to it since 1974 "because it had decided to march along the road of settlement. It considered internal liquidation as the ground which would enable it to proceed with its game in the international field."

AL-QABAS said that the interview was made with 'Allush, who broke with Fatah, in Baghdad, but gave no date for the interview. It said, however, that this was the first interview 'Allush had given since he formed his group on 18 November.

AL-QABAS quoted him as saying that what the PLO was seeking at present can be no more than "a Palestinian principality or statelet as part of complete capitulation to the Zionist enemy, and As-Sadat's initiative would be nothing compared to this."

'Allush described the objectives of his movement as being the gathering of all the Arab revolutionary and democratic forces in "a unified pan-Arab front" to fight all interests of imperialism and particularly U.S. imperialism and the escalation of the armed struggle against Israel and the confrontation of the Arab "reactionary" forces.

FATAH OFFICIAL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, IRANIAN VOLUNTEERS

JN011424 Doha QNA in Arabic 1250 GMT 1 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpts] Doha, 1 Jan--Salim az-Za'nun, alias Abu al-Adib, Fatah Central Committee member and the movement's representative in the Gulf region, left Doha for Kuwait at noon today, after having attended the celebrations held by the PLO office in Doha on the occasion of the Palestinian revolution's 15th anniversary.

Salim az-Za'nun arrived in Doha from Kuwait the day before yesterday to attend the celebrations.

Prior to his departure from Doha today, Salim az-Za'nun held a press conference at the PLO office in which he discussed the Palestinian struggle to regain the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

In the press conference, Salim az-Za'nun announced that a representative of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is expected to leave for Libya in a few days, in order to continue the Syrian mediation effort to end the Libyan-Palestinian dispute.

Salim az-Za'nun revealed that Algeria and the PDRY have both made progress in their mediation between Libya and the PLO toward ending the dispute.

Az-Za'nun affirmed that the Palestinian revolution hopes that the peripheral dispute will end. He pointed out that from the beginning, the Palestinian revolution has raised the banner calling for a halt to peripheral conflicts, in order to concentrate on the primary dispute with the enemy.

The Fatah representative said that matters should be put in their proper perspective, in accordance with the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences. Salim az-Za'nun added: We and the others in the Arab states are committed to these resolutions. Accordingly, he added, we refuse to interfere in the Arab states' internal affairs and Libya, as well, must neither interfere in the Palestinian revolution's affairs nor discredit the Palestinians' only legitimate representative.

Salim az-Za'nun called on Libya to deal with the PLO only as represented by its Executive Committee chairman and the head of its Political Department.

Concerning reports of the arrival of Iranian volunteers in Syria to join the ranks of the Palestinian revolution, Salim az-Za'nun said: We welcome every volunteer from the Arab and Islamic states who wishes to join the Palestinian revolution's ranks.

Salim az-Za'nun added: We cling to our guns in southern Lebanon, in order to defend ourselves. However, in terms of Palestinian, Arab and Muslim revolutionaries who might join us, the fighting duties for which they are trained are geared toward work inside the occupied territory.

Abu al-Adib said that the Palestinian revolution does not violate any state's sovereignty and, accordingly, cannot require that the Lebanese Government accept a volunteer from abroad if this government does not wish to do so. Salim az-Za'nun added that those volunteers have actually arrived in Syria but have not yet entered Lebanon.

Answering a question on the connection between the formation of a new Jordanian Government and the fedayeen operation that originated from the Jordan Valley, Salim az-Za'nun said: We have achieved no successes to date, not even [word indistinct]. Thus, there is no connection between this operation and the formation of a new Jordanian Government.

Salim az-Za'nun added that Jordanian-Palestinian dialog has not achieved anything except that success achieved by the joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee for support of our people in the occupied territory.

Salim az-Za'nun expressed the hope that Palestinian-Jordanian relations will make further progress. He added: We find the new Jordanian prime minister to be an educated man, who might give greater impetus to political bilateral cooperation.

FATAH BANISHES HEAD OF GROUP INVOLVED IN MECCA INCIDENT

NC281801 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 28 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that Fatah has banished Nasir Sa'id, head of the Islamic organization that claimed responsibility for the Mecca mosque incident, from Beirut following clashes between Fatah and Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine elements who were guarding him in a house in Burj al-Barajinah last Sunday.

Sa'id was arrested after a clash and was taken to the airport, where a plane took him to an Arab country.

KUWAIT

AS-SIYASAH: U.S. HAD ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF SOVIET ACTIONS

LD030900 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0715 GMT 3 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--A Kuwaiti newspaper said today the United States had advance knowledge of the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan but kept quiet about it because it believed the intervention would be economically and politically detrimental to Moscow and would involve it in a war with the Islamic world.

AS-SIYASAH, which prominently published this report on its front page, quoted a European diplomatic source in Kuwait, but the newspaper did not divulge the identity of this source. The newspaper quoted the source as saying that the intelligence departments in a number of European countries, which the paper did not name, conveyed to the CIA last December information about the military alert in the Soviet Union and its partners of the Warsaw Pact. But the Americans, according to the report, replied that these military movements were only precautionary measures to meet any possible American military intervention in Iran.

AS-SIYASAH said the European source is convinced that the U.S. administration appears to have had advance knowledge that the Soviet Union would intervene militarily in Afghanistan and that it did not object to this. It said the United States adopted this stand because of its conviction that the Soviet involvement would cause new losses for Moscow, including extensive hostility in the Islamic world.

MINISTER SEES NO PLANS TO CALL ISLAMIC SUMMIT ON AFGHANISTAN

LD031000 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0915 GMT 3 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said in a press statement today that Kuwait has no knowledge of any plans to convene an Islamic summit conference to discuss the situation in Afghanistan in the wake of Soviet military intervention there. In a brief statement published by AL-QABAS he said Kuwait, which has condemned the Soviet intervention, has held no talks about the possibility of convening an Islamic summit. Husayn said the general secretariat of the Islamic congress in Jidda has issued no proposal calling for a summit of the member states of the congress. But he added that the question of Afghanistan could be discussed should the Islamic countries hold an ordinary summit.

AL-QABAS SAYS U.S. MOBILIZING ISLAMIC FORCES AGAINST USSR

LD311030 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0732 GMT 31 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 31 December--The United States has decided to "mobilize" Islamic forces against the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan in the light of a "discouraging" Soviet reply to the U.S. ultimatum against such intervention, the newspaper AL-QABAS reports in a dispatch from Washington attributed to "reliable sources."

The paper adds that this decision was taken in accordance with a strategic plan studied by the American National Security Council, and "aims at forming a unified Islamic front and reviving a CENTO-type alliance, which was a military alliance comprising the Islamic countries of Iran, Turkey and Pakistan in addition to the United States and Britain and which was dissolved recently," to counter communist expansion in the area surrounding Afghanistan.

The paper also says Washington "is relying in its new strategy on Pakistan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia in view of the latter's financial role."

OMAN

PFLO RADIO: SULTANATE FOCUS OF U.S. SEARCH FOR MIDEAST BASES

LD292116 Aden Voice of PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD/EA

[Excerpts] A U.S. delegation from the Defense Department, the Pentagon, led by Robert Murray, the U.S. administration's expert on the Middle East, arrived in the region on 18 December 1979. After visiting the Sultanate of Oman, it proceeded to Somalia and Kenya to discuss with officials there the possibility of establishing U.S. bases on the territory of those countries.

Informed sources in Washington say the Muscat regime of Qabus expressed its readiness to grant U.S. imperialism the sites it could to establish its aggressive bases. The locations for these bases were Masirah Island, situated southeast of the sultanate, and the Musandam area, at the approaches to the Strait of Hormuz. This would give U.S. imperialism full military control over the region, which would permit it to step up its moves against the peoples fighting to extricate themselves from the circle of imperialist stooges.

What is going on in the Iranian arena today is indicative of the orientation of all the peoples in the region and their hatred of the overlord of imperialism, the United States, which the leader of the Iranian Revolution, Ayatollah Khomeyni, has described as Satan.

The opening by Qabus' Muscat regime of Oman's doors to these foreigners, the enemies of the people, so that they might establish military bases on the soil of our country constitutes a grave threat to the freedom not only of our Omani people, but of all the peoples of the region.

The Pentagon delegation's visit to the sultanate, which was preceded by a visit by a 10-man politico-military delegation from the U.S. administration to pave the way for the Pentagon delegation, is easily explained. The delegation of U.S. experts surveyed the sultanate and listed the sites and harbors suitable for U.S. bases. The delegation spent 3 months in the sultanate and then submitted a detailed report to the White House, expressing the Qabus regime's readiness to accede to American requests in this matter. In return, the United States will protect the regime of Qabus and supply the sultanate's army with military equipment and expertise.

The United States, whose back has been broken by the Iranian Revolution, no longer trusts its agents to protect its interests in the region. For this reason it has embarked on arrangements to play this role itself, following the fall of the shah and the refusal by many of the regimes in the region to enter into imperialist alliances.

QATAR

FATAH OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR TALKS 30 DEC

JN302017 Doha QNA in Arabic 1940 GMT 30 Dec 79 JN

[Excerpt] Doha, 30 December--Fatah Central Committee member Salim az-Za'nun, alias Abu al-Adib, arrived in Doha from Kuwait this evening to participate in the Doha PLO office celebrations of the 15th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution.

In a statement to QNA upon his arrival, Abu al-Adib said his visit to Qatar will be an opportunity for him to meet with Qatari officials and Palestinian brothers for talks on the Palestinian cause's present circumstances. He added that such meetings are of special importance at this time, when the Camp David partners' attack is being mounted.

Salim az-Za'nun is scheduled to deliver the PLO's speech at the popular rally that will be held tomorrow evening at the PLO's office in Doha, on the Palestinian revolution's 15th anniversary.

Meets Amir

JN310943 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0930 GMT 31 Dec 79 JN

[Excerpts] Doha, 31 December--Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifam ibn Hamad Al Thani received here today Salim az-Za'nun, representative in the Arab Gulf of the Palestine national liberation movement Fatah. The Palestinian official arrived in the Qatari capital yesterday to participate in the PLO's celebrations in Doha marking the 15th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution.

SAUDI ARABIA

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SYRIAN COUNTERPART

LD021156 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 2 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has received a message from 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The message was delivered by Hashim al-Ghazzi, Syrian deputy oil minister, during the course of his meeting with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal this afternoon.

Al-Ghazzi arrived in Riyadh earlier today. He was received at the airport by Shaykh 'Ali as-Suqayr, departmental chief at the Foreign Ministry in Riyadh.

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES CITIZENS' RIGHTS WITH KUWAITI COUNTERPART

LD292206 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2015 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 29 December--Maj Gen 'Abd al-Latif ath-Thuwayni, Kuwaiti Interior Ministry under secretary, returned to Kuwait after a short visit to the kingdom lasting several hours. During the visit Major General ath-Thuwayni discussed with Interior Ministry under secretary Dr Ibrahim al-'Awaji matters concerning the rights of Saudi citizens in the neutral zone between the two countries.

SOMALI FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS VISIT 2 JAN

LD021945 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1840 GMT 2 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Jidda--Somali Foreign Minister Dr Abourahman Jama Barre left Jidda this evening for home following a 1-day visit to the kingdom. Dr Barre had arrived in Jidda last night from Tokyo.

ARMY, AIR FORCE OFFICERS PROMOTED BY ROYAL DECREE

LD011736 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Three new royal decrees were issued in Riyadh today. The first appoints Lt Gen Muhammad as-Salih al-Hammad chief of general staff; the second appoints Maj Gen 'Abd al-Muhsin 'Ali al-Imran commander of land forces and grants him 1 year's seniority in his present rank; and the third appoints Air Maj Gen Muhammad Sabri as commander of the air force.

UAE

FATAH OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR TALKS 3 JAN

JN030748 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0735 GMT 3 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 January--Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, arrived here today on a visit of several days to the UAE. During the visit, Abu Mazin will hold talks with UAE officials on the latest developments in the Palestinian issue and on bilateral relations.

AL-WAHDAH WARNS AGAINST 'NEW YALTA'

JN021019 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0815 GMT 2 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 2 January--The newspaper AL-WAHDAH comments on the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. Following is the text of what the paper writes:

Soviet intervention in Afghanistan has now become a direct military occupation. The dispatch of more Soviet troops and weapons goes beyond the justifications Kremlin leaders have put forth.

The Soviet Union is now on the threshold of the 1980's, a period during which its oil supplies will begin to diminish, according to oil experts. Therefore, the Soviet Union is trying to get closer to the oil sources, and Afghanistan is one of the main linchpins for achieving this objective, especially since the Soviet Union has rightened its hold on Bab al Mandas through Ethiopia and the PDRY.

The Soviet Union's oil needs equal those of the United States. Since direct confrontation between the two superpowers is out of the question, necessity dictates that they cooperate together to secure the oil flow they need. The occupation of Afghanistan is the beginning of the implementation of a "new Yalta."

It is not farfetched that Iran will be the second target for Soviet expansion. Putting Iran in a very tight spot on the political and economic level might force it to aline itself with the Soviet Union. It is also said that other Arab oil-producing countries have been chosen to become the subject for a settlement between the two superpowers. Will the Arab countries, therefore, realize the danger behind the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and the danger behind the U.S. position on this occupation?

The serious situation requires from all Arab countries the formulation of an Arab strategy to confront the dangers of an agreement between the two superpowers to share the Arab nation's potentials and resources between them. Will the Arab countries heed this advice before it becomes too late?

YAR

OFFICIALS RETURN FROM PDRY, MAKE STATEMENTS

JN291807 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Brother Husayn ad-Daf'i, member of the Consultative Council and adviser to the president for unity affairs, and brother Ahmad al-Ansi, minister of communications and transport, returned to San'a' from Aden today.

Brother Ad-Daf'i stated at San'a' and Aden airports that he is carrying a verbal message to brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, from his brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, leader of the southern part of the homeland. In both his statements he stressed that his talks with the brother officials in the southern part of the homeland were successful and useful. He added that the unity committees will begin their work in San'a' in the first week of January.

The brother minister of communications and transport also made a statement, in which he expressed his satisfaction over the results of the talks he held with the brothers at the communications ministry in the southern part of the homeland, headed by brother Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh. He pointed out that among the topics discussed in the field of communications in the context of the near future were those of telecommunications and postal services. Also, a discussion was held on the plans to be implemented in the future for the sake of installing a comprehensive communications network.

He added that the two sides had talks on unifying the postal tariff, exchanging technical consultations, making use of the potentials available in the two parts, exchanging visits by technicians and specialists and establishing coordination at international conferences in the field of communications.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES JORDANIAN COURT MINISTER

JN021743 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received in his office at the general command this evening Jordanian Court Minister 'Amir Khammash, who conveyed to the brother president a verbal message from his brother His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that the message deals with developing relations between the two fraternal countries and with the current situation in the Middle East.

The meeting was attended by Dr 'Abd al-Wahab Mahmud, Consultative Council member and agriculture minister.

GHALI: JERUSALEM NOT RECOGNIZED AS ISRAELI CAPITAL

NC012024 Cairo DPA in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jan--Informed sources at the Foreign Ministry today quoted Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali as saying that Jerusalem would not be considered the capital of Israel even if the Egyptian ambassador in Israel presented his credentials in the western part of Jerusalem.

In his statement Ghali reaffirmed Israel's [as received] clear stand on the status of the holy city. He affirmed that the Arab eastern part of Jerusalem is an indivisible part of the West Bank of the Jordan River.

Ghali further said that many countries do not recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. He said that Egypt is working to return the occupied territory to the status it held before the 1967 war.

Quoting Ghali's predictions it was reiterated earlier today that 1980 will witness the formation of the first Palestinian state on Palestinian soil.

PLANNING MINISTER OUTLINES 5-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN

NC011620 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 1 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 1 Jan--Planning Minister 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid has announced that the volume of the new 5-year investment plan for 1980-1984 which the ministry has prepared totals 22.155 billion pounds. This constitutes 25 percent of the annual national income.

According to this plan, priority will be given to agricultural and food security projects, for which 20 percent of the total plan investments, or 4.375 billion pounds, has been allocated.

The planning minister said that this plan is aimed at achieving an average annual growth rate in national production of 11 percent. He said that in 1980 the growth rate will rise by 17.7 percent as a result of the increase in oil production and completion of the development of the Suez Canal project.

The minister further said that the plan is also aimed at increasing individual per capita income from 355 pounds in 1980 to 460 annually in 1984, and family income from 1,775 pounds to 2,300 pounds.

The minister described this plan, which is the first 5-year plan since the signing of the peace treaty, as ambitious, achievable and reflecting a policy of pursuing peace.

The plan's investments will be distributed as follows: 4.375 billion pounds will be allocated to agriculture and food security; 4.63 billion pounds for housing, public utilities and construction; 3.25 billion pounds for transport and communications; 2.5 billion pounds for industry and war production; 2.1 billion pounds for export; 1.6 billion for social and (?political) services; 1.5 billion for electricity; 1.2 billion for new cities; and 1 billion for local rule.

CHIEF OF STAFF ON READINESS TO HELP ARAB, AFRICAN STATES

NC311335 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 31 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 31 Dec--Egyptian Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi has declared that the next stage in our history will be harder and more difficult than any in the past. This stage, he said, will require more work from us to develop our armed forces including training, armaments, expertise in the most up-to-date combat methods, and utilization of modern advanced weapons.

The chief of staff added that the armed forces will continue to perform their sacred duty of defending the security of the homeland and the nation, preserving peace, deterring aggression, and being ready to help any fraternal Arab or friendly African state which asks for help.

In a speech made today at the graduation of a new group from the higher war academy, Lt Gen Badawi said that Egypt has been able to obtain the most modern arms and military equipment from friendly states and that this has made the armed forces proud of their increased efficacy and combat capabilities.

He said that armaments are one of the most important requirements for the development of our armed forces. Our policy, he added, is based on diversifying the sources of arms while at the same time keeping our arms and equipment in good technical condition so as to cut down military expenditure.

MENA REPORTS APPOINTMENT OF NEW 3D ARMY COMMANDER

NC011550 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1454 GMT 1 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jan--MENA's military editor has learned that Maj Gen Qadri 'Uthman has been appointed commander of the 3d Field Army, succeeding Maj Gen Yusuf 'Afifi, who has been appointed head of the military research academy.

The ceremony to hand over the army command will take place at a front post in a celebration at noon on Saturday to be attended by Defense Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

CHARGES AGAINST FORMER COMMANDER ASH-SHADHILI CITED

NC290805 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 29 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 29 Dec--The newspaper AKHBAR AL-YAWM today reports that a bill of indictment has been drawn up against former Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili, who lives abroad and who has published articles in some foreign papers disclosing some military secrets.

Answering a question, Defense and War Production Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali told AKHBAR AL-YAWM: Sa'd ash-Shadhili has violated military traditions. He had access to information on several military matters. Accepted traditions in all states prohibit the publications of any military information for 30 years. However, Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili disclosed these secrets without permission, thereby violating military law.

The defense minister added that he hopes Ash-Shadhili will come to Egypt to exercise his right to self-defense against the charges he is facing.

General 'Ali said: This is the first time in our contemporary military history that a commander has violated military traditions by revealing secrets after only a few years had elapsed.

VIETNAMESE FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER DEPARTS 1 JAN

JN010828 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 1 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 1 January--Vietnamese Foreign Trade Minister Dang Viet Chau and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad at dawn today after a 5-day visit to Iraq.

In a statement before his departure, the Vietnamese minister expressed his satisfaction over the outcome of the visit, during which joint minutes on financial and banking cooperation were signed. He said that the minutes aim at enlarging the spheres of cooperation and strengthening bilateral relations in various fields.

Dang Viet Chau pointed out that during the visit, he exchanged views with Iraqi officials on issues of common interest, particularly trade exchange.

DJIBOUTI PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD 2 JAN

JN021555 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 2 January--Djibouti President Hassan Gouled arrived here this evening on a 4-day visit to Iraq at the invitation of President Saddam Husayn.

President Gouled is accompanied by a delegation comprising Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Moumine Bahdon Farah; Justice and Muslim Affairs Minister Helaf Orbis; Commerce, Transportation and Tourism Minister Aden Robdeh Awaleh; and head of the president's office (Ismail Omar).

Official talks between Presidents Saddam Husayn and Hassan Gouled are scheduled to begin tomorrow.

Talks Held

JN022137 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2103 GMT 2 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 January--President Saddam Husayn met here this evening with Djibouti president Hassan Gouled. The two presidents discussed relations between the two fraternal countries and ways of bolstering them in a manner that consolidates the Arab people's struggle in the two countries and contributes to the building of economic bases. The two presidents also reviewed the latest developments in the Arab region and the most important world events.

The meeting was attended by RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan.

It will be recalled that Djibouti President Hassan Gouled arrived in Baghdad earlier today on a 4-day visit to Iraq.

RCC DECREE ALTERS AUTONOMOUS AREA ADMINISTRATION

JN021024 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 2 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 2 January--The RCC decreed in Baghdad today that the Presidents of the legislative and executive councils of the autonomous area--northern Iraq--shall be cabinet members. The decree grants them ministerial powers in the administrative apparatus they head in accordance with the administrative appointments system for the autonomous area.

The RCC also decided to abolish a paragraph in the autonomy law for Kurdistan which provides for the appointment of a minister of state who coordinates between the central authority and the autonomous bodies in the area. The ministry was later called the Ministry of State for Coordinating Activities in the Autonomous Area. Ministers will reassign the employees, workers and assets of this ministry's departments to other state departments.

The RCC decided that department secretary generals in the autonomous area will be members of "ministry councils." These councils are specialized bodies in every ministry. They include the minister and senior ministry officials. Their task is to make decisions and recommendations that increase the efficiency of work, expand the ministry's activities and provide coordination among various ministry departments.

Secretaries of the Departments of Education, Public Works and Housing, Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, Interior, Culture and Youth, Municipalities and Resorts, Social Affairs and Economic and Financial Affairs shall be members of ministry councils connected with their departments' sphere of authority.

The decree abolishes the Transport and Communications Department in the autonomous area.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES PLO NATIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

JN020834 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Jan 80 p 1 JN

[Text] Amman--Prime Minister 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf met with Palestine National Council Chairman Khalid al-Fahum yesterday. Jordanian Senate speaker Bahjat at-Talhuni attended the meeting.

Al-Fahum congratulated 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf on the royal confidence placed in him and on his formation of the new government.

AR-RA'Y CALLS FOR ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL

JN020845 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 2 Jan 80 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial, AR-RA'Y discusses the Israeli aggression against Jerusalem's Arabism. The paper says: The Israeli decision to take over Jerusalem Electric is contrary to all international resolutions which prohibit Israel from carrying out measures that change the status of the holy city or in any way infringe upon Arab rights, property and activity in the city.

AR-RA'Y says: The Israeli decision concerning Jerusalem Electric is a political decision. It is part of the practices to uproot everything that is connected with the Arab presence in Jerusalem and to cut off the city's links with the occupied West Bank.

It is natural that the decision should meet with stiff resistance on the part of our steadfast kinsmen in Arab Jerusalem and the rest of the occupied West Bank and that trends should emerge calling for referring the case to the United Nations and the International Court of Justice.

AR-RA'Y says: The decision precedes by 1 week the projected meeting between President as-Sadat and Menahem Begin in Aswan on 7 January. It reinforces the question on the safeguards which, it was claimed, the Camp David accords guarantee for the Palestinians. Indeed, it is further proof that these accords have even failed in preventing future Israeli practices that are harmful to the Palestinians.

AR-RA'Y urges the international community to remember an important fact; namely, that the affirmation of the prestige of international resolutions is an indivisible whole and that turning a blind eye to Israeli violations of UN resolutions, including the transgression against the Jerusalem Electric Company, will not enhance the prestige of UN resolutions on other issues.

In conclusion, AR-RA'Y writes: The arbitrary Israeli measures against the company--a political decision aimed at the Arab presence in Jerusalem and an act that undermines the prestige of international resolutions--deserves to be referred by the Arabs to the United Nations. In light of this decision and international denunciations of Israeli settlement policies, the Arabs should call for economic sanctions against Israel. Then, the extent of the international community's seriousness in protecting the prestige of its resolutions will become clear, especially as the weapon of economic sanctions should not be brandished when some resolutions are violated and sheathed when other resolutions are violated.

AL-AKHBAR ON INCREASE IN U.S. AID TO ISRAEL

JN310930 Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 31 Dec 79 pp 1, 4 JN

[Editorial: "Aid to Israel and the Siege of Iran"]

[Text] It was announced in Washington yesterday that President Carter has approved the $400 million increase in U.S. aid to Israel. Thus, U.S. aid to Israel in 1979 amounts to $2.2 billion.

If we should look at a map of the Third World states which do not produce oil, we would find that U.S. aid to Israel in 1979 exceeds the sum of the budgets of seven African states which do not produce oil. If we should take into consideration Israel's position among Jordan, Syria and Lebanon--parts of whose territory Israel has been occupying since 1967--we would find that U.S. aid has not gone to any of these states, which have been victims of Israeli aggression and the territory of which Israel is still occupying, but has gone to Israel. U.S. aid to Israel in 1979 alone is four times the total budget of Jordan--despite our people's hard work and indefatigable attempts to improve their economic and social conditions. We would clearly see that had it not been for the military and economic aid which the United States has been extending to Israel, Israel would not have been able to continue its occupation of Arab territory. Indeed, had it not been for this aid, Israel would have hastened to seek a just peace with the Arab states instead of constantly committing aggressions against southern Lebanon and carrying out provocations against others.

It is strange that the United States is asking the world to maintain a siege against Iran because Iranian students are holding 50 American diplomats hostage in Tehran, while it is extending aid to Israel, which is holding the entire homeland of the Palestinians and 1 and 1/2 million Arabs and is dispersing an even greater number of Arabs throughout the world.

The Arab citizen who is in sympathy with the families of the American hostages, is disgusted by the contradiction in the U.S. political stand and the support for the aggressor Israel, support which enables it to persist in its aggression.

This attitude has been expressed by more than one Arab official. The United States knows more than anyone else that no siege can be imposed against Iran without the consent of Iran's neighbors. Where is the United States heading in its contradictory stands of assisting Israel and calling for a siege of Iran?

The United States shoulders a special moral responsibility in contemporary international relations. When it froze Iranian assets, it set an international precedent that enabled Egypt to sequester the Arab states' assets in Egyptian banks. Thus, the United States, while it is a permanent member of the Security Council and is expected to preserve world peace and security and work for the stability and growth of international relations, is taking the lead in adopting measures that could bring about chaos in international relations.

LIBYA

PLO GROUP SENDS MESSAGE TO GENERAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS

LD021028 Tripoli JANA in English 0816 GMT 2 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The PLO Political Committee in the Jamahiriyah sent a cable to the General People's Congress reading:

On the occasion of holding the fifth ordinary session of the General People's Congress in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah the PLO Political Committee presents its warm struggle regards and true wishes that the works of the congress be completely successful for reinforcing struggle consolidation between the two revolutions and among all Arab national and progressive forces.

Freedom fighters... [ellipsis as received]

Your congress is being convened at a time when our Arab nation is waging one of its most honorable battles against the unholy trilateral Carter-Begin-As-Sadat alliance and its aggressive plans which attempt to impose defeat on our nation on imperialist-Zionist-reactionary terms in order to gain control over our region.

But our nation's patriotic and progressive freedom-fighting forces will foil the schemes of this alliance after the passing of [word indistinct] one year after the signing of the treacherous accords by the defeated Egyptian president and (Israel) and the treasonous visit to Jerusalem. The unholy alliance has not yet been able to impose capitulation on our nation, thanks to the steadfastness of the masses and the heroic struggle of patriotic and progressive forces.

It is in this perspective that the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied lands against the self-rule conspiracy took place.

ALGERIAN UNDER SECRETARY DEPARTS AFTER TALKS

LD012014 Tripoli JANA in English 1710 GMT 1 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Mr Mohammad al-Saleh Dambous, under secretary for foreign affairs in Algeria, left Tripoli this afternoon after a visit for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah during which discussions took place of what had been agreed upon between the foreign secretary and the Algerian minister of foreign affairs regarding contacts of coordination between the two countries.

In a statement to the JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY correspondent before his departure, the Algerian under secretary expressed his great satisfaction about the results achieved with his accompanying delegation during this visit. He pointed out that agreement has been reached between the two countries on general secretariats level in the JAMAHIRIYAH and Algerian ministries on African, Arab, Asian and European departments level to exchange viewpoints, to deepen unified action and to present a unified policy affirming that cooperation toward Africa should be consolidated.

He also stressed the encouragement of development plan between our two peoples in different fields, especially education, transport, information and economic sectors.

Mr Mohammad al-Saleh Dambous and his accompanying delegation were seen off at Tripoli international airport by the under-secretary of the Foreign Secretariat, the director of Arab department at the Foreign Secretariat, the Algerian ambassador to the Jamahiriyah, the Jamahiriyah ambassador to Algeria, and a representative for Protocol Department at the Foreign Secretariat.

MAURITANIA

SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN CONDEMNED

LD022125 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 2 Jan 80 LD

["Full text" published 2 January by the MAURITANIAN PRESS AGENCY of statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation--read by announcer]

[Text] The government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania took note with extreme anxiety of the dangerous events which took place recently in Kabul, the capital of a sovereign state and a member of the United Nations. Moreover, the government also took note of the explanations submitted to it by the representative of the Soviet Union. The Islamic Republic of Mauritania sees the matter as very important because it concerns the future of the Afghan people and their legitimate aspirations freely to chose their political regime. Mauritania, which adheres to the principles of noninterference in the internal affairs of states and to Islamic solidarity, hopes that the sovereignty and independence of Afghanistan will be protected. From the premise of this attitude, Mauritania condemns everything that harms international relations and the principle of noninterference in the affairs of others.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI DISCUSSES SUDANESE-ARAB RELATIONS

JN311632 Doha QNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 31 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 31 December--Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri has reiterated his country's readiness to contribute to the settlement of current Arab differences. He said: We are now working to formulate an Arab strategy which will reunite the Arabs and are searching for alternatives to achieve a just peace in the Arab area.

On Sudan's position on the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel, President Numayri said: I do not want to anticipate events but I would like to stress that Sudan remains committed to the basic principles adopted by the Algiers and Rabat summit conferences.

In an interview with the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY today President Numayri expressed the belief that the Camp David agreements constitute a step toward peace in the Arab area but that they lack many things, are obscure and vague and are not sufficient to achieve a just peace.

President Numayri said his country objects to Egypt's supplying Israel with Nile water. He described this operation as contradictory to international regulations and an impossible act that will not be realized.

On the possible normalization of relations between Iraq and Sudan in light of his meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn during the Tunis summit conference, President Numayri said: I can't decide this now. However, causes for severing relations with Iraq do exist. If these causes are removed relations between the two countries will return to normal.

In his interview President Numayri praised Sudanese-UAE relations in all spheres.

Speaking about Sudan's relations with Uganda, President Numayri said: Talks are currently being held in Khartoum with the Ugandan foreign minister to settle the Ugandan-Sudanese dispute and the issue of the Ugandan refugees. President Numayri added that Sudan is also working to settle the problem of the Eritrean refugees.

President Numayri stated that Sudan's relations with the African countries are based on respect for relations of good neighborliness and noninterference in their internal affairs.

President Numayri said that a ministerial change will take place in Sudan soon. He described this change as natural, taking place after the national congress of the Sudanese Socialist Union and the election of the members of the Political Bureau. Changes in most of the leading positions have taken place making a ministerial change necessary.

On the oil situation in Sudan, President Numayri confirmed the existence of oil in Sudan. He said: Oil has been produced from four wells. Sudan is in the process of implementing a program for the construction of the necessary oil infrastructure. This might take several years.

AS-SADAT CONGRATULATES NUMAYRI ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

NC311515 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1414 GMT 31 Dec 79 NC

[Congratulatory message from Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat to Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri on the occasion of Sudan's independence anniversary]

[Text] Cairo, 31 December--On this day when you are celebrating the anniversary of Sudan's independence, it gives me great pleasure to convey to you sincerest heartfelt congratulations on my behalf and in the name of the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt. I implore God almighty to bless and give success to our march for the welfare of the two fraternal peoples and a better future for the peoples of our glorious Arab nation.

I convey to you my sincerest greetings and best wishes for your health and happiness, coupled with my wishes for the welfare and prosperity of the fraternal Sudanese people under your wise leadership.

Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent similar cables of congratulations on this occasion to President Ja'far Numayri, Sudanese Vice President Gen 'Abd al-Majid Khalil and Vice President ar-Rashid at-Tahir.

TUNISIA

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OFFICIAL ON SOVIET INTERVENTION

LD011415 Tunis TAP in English 1350 GMT 1 Jan 80 LD

["Pool" item: "Afghanistan: Statement of the Secretary General of the Islamic Conference"--TAP headline]

[Text] Tunis, 1st Jan 80 (TAP)--Being on a visit to Tunis, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization (I.C.O.) made the following statement about events in Afghanistan:

"The Afghanistan events laid to a deep emotion all over the Moslem world. These countries, which are almost all linked by brotherly relations and in some cases by close co-operation with the Soviet Union, don't understand how Moscow took such a decision contrary to international conventions and the effects of which on Moslem countries could be of really serious effects on its relations with these countries. [sentence as received]

"The Islamic Conference Organization, which has as a rule the respect of domestic affairs of all the state particularly of its members but has also as responsibility to defend the principles of freedom for all the peoples and independence of all states, cannot remain indifferent to the armed intervention of a foreign power in an Islamic country.

"Before the far-reaching events in Afghanistan and the serious worriness [as received] felt by Moslem world and this situation being one of the most jeopardizing precedent in international relations, the Islamic organization's secretary general la[illegible]ched an ultimate call to all member countries to take appropriate measures aiming at stopping any foreign military presence in a brother country."

LA PRESSE VIEWS EVENTS IN IRAN, AFGHANISTAN

LD021428 Tunis TAP in English 1348 GMT 2 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Tunis, January 2, TAP--Under the heading "Regression", the Tunisian daily LA PRESSE writes today in its editorial that the Iranian-American problem and the events in Afghanistan opposing henceforth the Soviet Union to the West make the danger of war more present now than ever. It is sure the daily states, that the Afghan affairs thrust the world into a distressing regression which brings it back to [word indistinct] thought finished of a cold war between Moscow and Washington, the daily adds.

In fact, things will no longer be as they used to be at the eve of Kabul's coup which is threatening peace and stability in the world.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR COMMUNIQUE ON POLISARIO OPERATIONS REPORTED

LD021346 Algiers APS in English 1220 GMT 2 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Sadr (liberated zones) 2 January, APS--The Defense Ministry of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SDAR) issued Tuesday a communique in which it gives the results of POLISARIO Front military operations against Moroccan occupation forces during the month of November.

Two "Mirage F-1" aircrafts were shot down, 243 Moroccan soldiers were killed and more than 300 others injured, says the communique adding that these operations took place within "Houari Boumediene offensive" which was launched in January 1979.

The communique mentions two important operations led by the Saharan People's Liberation Army (ALPS) in Vad Draa (south Morocco). The first one took place (Nov 4) in Lengueb where ALPS occupied the garrison and captured 4 Moroccan soldiers. It is during the second operation, Nov 19, that the Saharan Army shot down the two Moroccan aircrafts in Abattih.

During these two operations, the POLISARIO Front killed 98 soldiers and injured more than 120 others.

SDAR COMMUNIQUE ON SMARA, MESEIED SHELLINGS

LD011652 Algiers APS in English 1614 GMT 1 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Liberated territories, 01/01/80 (APS)--"The combatants of the Saharan popular liberation army shelled last week the Moroccan forces stationed in Smara. They destroyed military installations, further details will be given about casualties", the Saharan Defence Ministry declares in a communique issued Monday.

"In Uad Draa region, the Saharan army submitted to a heavy shelling the garrison of Meseied where a military post of the occupation's troops was totally destroyed, 8 Moroccan soldiers killed and 10 wounded."

In turn, the Saharan Defence Ministry published the total of casualties inflicted to the monarchist troops in Western Sahara and southern Morocco. It mentioned that 2 "Mirage F-1" jet fighters were shot down, 243 soldiers killed and 300 wounded, during November 1979.

WEIZMAN DISCUSSES U.S. TRIP, MILITARY, ECONOMIC AID

TA311234 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1118 GMT 31 Dec 79 TA

[News conference by Israeli Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman at Ben-Gurion Airport upon his return from the United States--live]

[Text] [Daniyel] [transmission begins in midsentence] Military and economic aid for Israel, the traditional sum granted is $1.8 billion...

[Weizman--interrupting] Seven hundred and eighty.

[Daniyel] Israel requested $3.4 billion but was prepared to accept a minimum of $2.[illegible] billion. Prior to the defense minister's departure for the United States, various U.S. officials expressed a willingness to grant $2.2 billion, with the explanation being inflation.

[Weizman] Just a minute.

[Daniyel] Arms deals agreed upon during the U.S. Defense Secretary's visit to Israel are being held up because of budgetary difficulties. All this is the background of the defense minister's visit. He arrived here a few minutes ago and is sitting here. Mr Defense Minister, how much money, how much aid will...

[Weizman--interrupting] First, no official said $2.2 billion. No one said how much, all this is speculations and fiction by a handful of people. It was clear that the United States was not going to increase aid, and it was clear that it was going to reduce aid to some countries. This is what it has done. Following the arrival of Finance Ministry Director General Dr Ne'eman and myself--and they, of course, knew why we had come--we presented Israel's economic problems to the U.S. President and the state and defense secretaries. We followed two lines: A) The implementation of peace, and B) The new economic measures that the Israeli Government has correctly adopted over the past 2 months. In view of this, we said a strong Israel from a domestic economic point of view--not necessarily with respect to the number of planes or the number of tanks--is of major importance. A) To the peace treaty, B) To its national power and C) To the friendship between the United States and Israel. I believe that we were convincing and that all the stories about 2.2 and 1.1....All of them are strange assessments being fished out of Washington's clean or dirty water.

I cannot say how much the aid will be because I was asked to remain silent until it is made public in Washington at 1200 Washington time, 1900 local time. I will abide by this. I can only say that it is more than 1.8 and certainly less than the 3.4 we requested. I can say one thing, it is not a huge amount of aid. In days such as these when the United States is also undergoing complex domestic economic processes--and it is not our job to look after the U.S. economy--it is our duty to understand this within the partnership that exists between us. In view of the difficult political processes in Afghanistan and in Tehran, it was an honor for Israel that the state and defense secretaries as well as the U.S. President took the trouble to meet with representatives of the State of Israel, which is a small but great country, during the period between Christmas and the New Year. This is something that cannot be measured in money. Therefore, it will be more than 1.8. As to how much, I cannot tell you at the moment because I promised my friends in Washington that, until it is made public there, I will say nothing.

['Amiram Nir-Israel television] Mr Weizman, before you left Israel you said that you would be happy if we get $2.2 billion. If so, why did we submit a request for $3.4 billion?

[Answer] Look, we submitted a request for 3.4 because this is what we think is best for the State of Israel. Between the best and good or almost good or fair--if you remember your high school grades--there are several dividing lines. It is true that we submitted what we thought best, I said, and I do not retract what I said--there are some who do not like this--that I believed that we would have no basis for a discussion on 3.4 in view of my knowledge of the situation and the area. To my regret, I was right, not because I said that we are prepared to accept less. [sentence as heard] I repeat, in my assessment, without the final effort, which was a general effort by the Israeli Government--and I only presented it--I doubted very much if we would get $1 more than the 1.8.

[Nir] Mr Weizman, did your declaration of support for President Carter for the next 4 years manifest a personal position or the position of the Israeli Government?

[Answer] Look, first of all, it is strange to call it a declaration of support. I want to say one thing which, in my opinion, is important to say: I believe the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt, despite there sometimes being a shadow over it and despite people rightly or wrongly looking for where it might fail, is one of the most important political things that has happened to the State of Israel since the Balfour declaration and the UN declaration of 1947. There have been many other things, real things, defense orientated. Since it is my belief that this is one of the most important moves, everyone both within and outside Israel who contributed to the peace process is blessed. I regard everyone who contributed to the peace process as a friend of Israel. I feel that we have forgotten and that we should remember the effort made by President Carter both at Camp David and in the processes thereafter. For example, he came to Jerusalem and ran between Jerusalem and Cairo in order to achieve an agreement between the State of Israel and Egypt after 30 years of bloodshed. I think that this is a major contribution even if it was also due to an awareness that this is good for the United States. In general, you should be suspicious of someone who only does you favors. If someone does you a good turn which is also good for him, may he be blessed. Therefore, I believe that President Carter made a massive contribution to Israel's political life, to the peace process. If this is the case, why should I not say so.

[Question by unidentified correspondent] In your assessment, does this justify what could be interpreted as involvement in U.S. domestic affairs?

[Answer] I want to tell you, my young friend, we live in a small country, but a great country, far away from the United States. Not one word was written in the press, in the New York TIMES or the Washington POST, about the anger of the Jewish community, about the intervention of the Jewish community. This is a huge exaggeration. This is a huge exaggeration. Of course, this could irk Senator Kennedy, I do not know him. I have never spoken with him. I have never heard his views on the State of Israel. It is his right, and I do not want to get into any argument here. I do not think that this is a case of intervention in U.S. domestic affairs. I think that this was an expression of thanks to the U.S. President who has contributed so much and of friendship between him and myself.

[Daniyel] Mr Weizman, has the United States asked Israel for bases for Mideast activity?

[Answer] No. I will repeat what I said on CBS yesterday. It has not requested and I did not propose. The United States knows that it has a friend in the Middle East. Whenever it does make a request, it is welcome.

[NIR] Mr Defense Minister, it was reported that during your talks with the U.S. Secretary of State you declared your willingness to intervene in the autonomy negotiations...

[Weizman...interrupting] This is not accurate. Just a minute. Israeli television is asking me if I intend to get involved in the autonomy talks. No. I will get involved in the autonomy talks when I feel that I can make a contribution there. Now I think that the four members [of the autonomy team] are contributing as best they can. When I think that I can make a contribution, I will join in and it will have no connection with whether I have spoken with the U.S. Secretary of State.

[Broadcast is returned to the studio where the announcer reports that the press conference is still in progress]

COMMENT ON CHANCES FOR U.S. ACCEPTING ISRAELI AID REQUEST

TA300711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 30 Dec 79 TA

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] HA'ARETZ writes that, in fact, Weizman acted in the United States as the foreign minister. Had we had a foreign minister who could have devoted himself to his post in a continuous and systematic manner--instead of an envoy for a last-minute rescue operation--one might have assumed that the government would have submitted an aid request to the United States which would have not given the impression that Jerusalem is not aware of the situation in Washington. Then, the chances for such a request being accepted would have been far better than the chances of the request actually presented--and whose defense was relinquished in advance by Mr Weizman. We can only hope now that the defense minister has impressed his interlocutors--particularly the U.S. President--with his contentions that Israel is entitled to an increase in the traditional U.S. aid. Although our path to the Congress is open, it would be much better if the President initiated the aid increase.

HATZOFE says that although the U.S. administration is financially limited it is hoped that the U.S. aid will increase to meet Israel's needs. It should be pointed out that U.S. economic aid at a time when the autonomy talks are being held might constitute some sort of political pressure. Appropriate resistance should be shown on this point. In HATZOFE's opinion, a properly prepared Israel is an important brick in the defense wall of the free world.

U.S. SUPPORTS EGYPT'S POSITIONS REGARDING AUTONOMY

TA030700 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Text] From an internal document prepared and submitted to the prime minister and the Ministerial Committee on Autonomy Affairs, it clearly emerges that the United States supports Egypt's positions on almost all the disputed issues in the negotiations. The prime minister will receive an updated report on the negotiations in a special meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Autonomy Affairs. The ministers will be presented a model of the authority of the self-administration prepared in the last few days. This morning, our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports on the internal document and its implications, prepared at the end of 6 months of talks.

[Schiffer--live] Even if music were played in the background of the document defining the positions of the parties in the negotiations on the establishment of the autonomy, the conclusions drawn from it would not be less hard and grave. There is no agreement between Israel and Egypt on any of the issues referring to the nature and the scope of the self-administration to be established in the territories. The United States almost absolutely supports the Egyptian positions.

Here is the lexicon of the autonomy negotiations as drawn by Prof Ruth Lapidot, the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser and a member of the negotiating team: The source of the authority of the self-administration will be, according to Israels' position: the IDF. Egypt's position: the population of the territories. The U.S. position: presumably, the agreement itself.

The nature of the autonomy: Israel's position--to the inhabitants; the United States and Egypt will strive toward the establishment of a self-administration which will also control territory.

The nature of the authority to be granted to the autonomy institutions: Israel's position--only administrative authority; Egypt and the United States--also in the legislative, administrative and judicial spheres.

The scope of authority: According to Israel's position it will comprise limited spheres. Egypt thinks that the entire authority of the military government should be transferred to the autonomy institutions. The U.S. position--presumably, authority in defined spheres.

The manner in which the authority will be transferred: Israel--through the IDF; Egypt--automatically; the United States--its position on this issue is unknown.

The range of authority to be enjoyed by the autonomy institutions: Israel proposes that they deal with the enactment of regulations, budgets, taxation, employment of workers, drawing of contracts and legal claims. On the other hand, Egypt and the United States--again in a common position--think that in addition to the above, [the autonomy institutions] should also be given responsibility for public land, natural resources, human rights and basic freedoms, public order and internal security.

Number of members of the [self-administration] council: Israel's position--11; Egypt--30 to 90. The Egyptians propose that both a national assembly and a council be established. Israel's position--only an administrative council. The U.S. position on this issue is unkown.

The security questions, according to Israel, should not be discussed in the negotiations. The Egyptians demand that they be discussed and are seconded, again, by the United States.

East Jerusalem will not be included within the boundaries of the self-administration, according to Israel. Egypt and the United States insist that the inhabitants of East Jerusalem vote for the autonomy institutions.

This is the document. Senior sources in the negotiating team emphasize that despite the picture drawn by this document the negotiations have continued and achievements have been made in certain spheres.

A model of the institutions and roles of the autonomy will be presented to the ministerial committee this morning. It seems that at the Aswan summit President as-Sadat will not dwell upon the sections and ranges of responsibility Israel is prepared to transfer to the autonomy institutions. The discussion between the two men, Begin and As-Sadat, will focus on the principle issues in dispute. Should a crisis be expected at the Aswan talks because of the abovementioned state of affairs? The answer is, no. The reason is that the parties to the negotiations have decided to continue their deliberations in spite of their knowledge that no achievement has been made in the talks on all the issues regarding the basic conceptions of the future solution of the Palestinian question.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT ON DEMONSTRATION OF U.S. POWER

TA021120 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 2 Jan 80 p 11 TA

[Shlomo Shamgar commentary: "Carter's Lesson"]

[Text] It is not yet clear whether it was a brilliant political trick or a gesture of sheer naivety. However, it is hard to conceive of a more pathetic act than that of a politician exposing himself in public and admitting: I have been lied to; I have been cheated; I have been tricked.

The performance was really heart-breaking: A leader who intends to ask for the electorate's confidence for an additional period of 4 years confesses: I have been naive... I gave them by confidence and I have been outwitted... I did not grasp the Kremlin's intentions....

Naivety--or an excuse for adopting a harsh line to finally prove that he is a strong president? Time will tell. Anyway, we better get used to the idea that Jimmy Carter has indeed, for the time being, drastically changed his opinion on Brezhnev and company. Of course, he still has to convince the world that the fateful turning point will have international inplications. Only his future acts will show whether he can do in Afghanistan more than he did in Iran.

Carter reaped in Kabul what he sowed in Tehran. Nevertheless, a superpower of the magnitude of the United States should behave in a responsible way and wisely measure its steps. However, it cannot afford to let a lunatic like Khomeyni and a (relatively) backward nation like Iran tarnish its prestige and lead it by the nose for months-on-end without somebody recalling that the donkey is the symbol of Carter's Democratic Party. In the jungle of the international political arena donkeys do not have a long life span....

As opposed to Carter, there are sober people in the world who were not surprised at the sudden "revelation" of the Soviet intentions and who did not need to make a call on the red telephone to reach a "painful reassessment." People with eyes and brains in their heads simply tired of warning Washington that whoever retreats in front of Cuban mercenaries will eventually be deterred by their superiors; and whoever trembles in front of the PLO's "strength" is not qualified to serve as "the world's policeman."

Moscow--this is another matter. All kudos to Moscow. The Soviets do not purport to be the "world's policemen." However, at least they know what they want. When the time comes to impose order--according to their conception, of course--in a sensitive area like Afghanistan, which borders on the Soviet Union, they do not hesitate to take a broom and sweep their own front yards. When they are forced to leave there--be it due to counterpressure or because they have finished their job--they will leave. One can trust Brezhnev that, at least on this point, he told Carter the truth. The Soviets do not tend to get involved for long periods of time. They use the "big bang" system so that the world sees and realizes that Moscow does not resort to any kind of "tricks" when its prestige or vital interests are at stake.

If the Iranians indeed manage to do to the Soviet Embassy in Tehran the same thing they did to the U.S. Embassy, the Soviet Union will not hesitate to show Iran the reach of its long arms--and without diplomatically shooting the breeze.

Will the Americans and their Western allies--whom President Carter is calling on to participate in his grief and disappointment--learn the lesson? Will they understand that a world superpower must behave as one or else cease to exist?

Afghanistan is not important. The Western world can forsake it. However, the free world cannot forsake America, a strong America, aware of its strength and ready to show it.

AS-SADAT-BEGIN 'SIGNALING' BEFORE MEETING

TA280626 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 28 Dec 79 p 16 TA

[By Yosef Harif]

[Excerpt] On hearing and seeing As-Sadat's signaling, Begin started to flash his own signals, both on the issue of Jerusalem and the territories and, by implication, the issue of the nature of the autonomy.

Regarding Jerusalem, this week Begin repeated from the Knesset rostrum that "as I have already written to President Carter, Jerusalem is the indivisible capital of Israel. As far as Judaea, Samaria and Gaza are concerned, the government has never recognized them as occupied territories, and the right of the Jewish people to Eretz Yisra'el is indisputable. We are insisting and will continue to insist on this and will not budge one step."

True, Begin was forced to reply to motions for the agenda in the Knesset. Thus, he could not avoid repeating the statements which will certainly not please As-Sadat who, as he has already declared, plans to discuss both Jerusalem and the autonomy in his meeting with Begin in Aswan. Had Begin wanted to soften his remarks, he could have found a way to do so. The fact is, that on the same day he appeared before the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee he was not ready to disclose anything about the issues likely to be discussed with the Egyptian president.

However, before his departure for Egypt, Begin was not prepared to give up this "down payment" on the issue of Jerusalem and the autonomy. As stated, it will also be appropriate for As-Sadat to again ponder the issues he intends to raise in his talks with me [Begin] before my arrival....

Of course, the question now arises: Are the autonomy talks doomed to stalemate in the wake of the polar positions adopted by the sides? And if so, what will happen to the normalization of relations with Egypt if one is to consider that Butrus Ghali does not make a secret of his opinion that the quality of the normalization depends on the progress of the autonomy talks?

Moreover, this question caused concern lest this situation continue until April 1982 when Israel returns the rest of the areas in the Sinai to Egypt. Then, who knows, perhaps Egypt will change its ways and become more demanding up to the point of reaching practical conclusions.

When Begin hears these claims from the hawks in his party like, for example, Chairman of the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee Moshe Arens--who until this very day is skeptical about Egypt's intentions--he reacts: "We will not get very far with pessimism...."

And the defense minister who sat next to him at a debate conducted by the Herut executive on the situation in the Middle East also spoke out against what he called "the depressive mood" and said: "We are tiring the public with this mood... when we refer to the treaty between Israel and Egypt as... "the peace tragedy."

However, not only the hawks express fear. The moderates, too, like Knesset members Amnon Rubinstein and Zerah Warheftiq, made their thoughts known to the prime minister at the meeting of the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee this week. There is not room to fear that if the relations with Egypt are not filled with content they will only become some kind of "interim agreement"....

Evidently, if Egypt indeed intends to condition the promotion of relations with Israel on the progress of the negotiations on the establishment of the autonomy, then this fear is not futile.

True, one does not get very far with pessimism. However, the question is: Where are the foundations for optimism?

As far as is known, the prime minister intends to discuss again with President as-Sadat not only the questions of Jerusalem and the autonomy but also the common Egyptian-Israeli interest in view of the danger hovering over the area from the Soviet Union and Muslim fanaticism, walking hand in hand. The issue of Egyptian and Israeli common interests should dictate the normalization of relations between the two countries. This issue was already discussed by As-Sadat and Begin in Alexandria in July and a few weeks later in their talks in Haifa. As-Sadat spoke about the nature of the "Arab world" and its fanatic leaders as opposed to enlightened Egypt.

Since then the situation has worsened and the question of common interests has become more acute. The ability to reach an understanding for the sake of these interests depends on another question: Will Egypt accept Israel's opinion that the Khomeynism wave will not stop at Iran's geographical boundaries--not necessarily because there are also Shi'ites in Iraq and Saudi Arabia (by the way, all the Shi'ites in these countries reside in the oil areas). Beyond its religious and social facts, Khomeynism also has political aspects. Their main significance lies in the momentum of Khomeynism--through the Shi'ite minorities--to spread toward Saudi Arabia and the implications of such a development on Egypt, the Persian Gulf emirates and principalities on the one hand and to Libya, standing behind Egypt's back, on the other.

Egypt is very well aware of the significance of Libya now that it has become a vast arsenal of Soviet weaponry. Indeed, there are tangible indications in the field that the Egyptian leadership is not ignoring these assessments. The massive Soviet presence in the area--in Syria, Iraq, Libya, Algeria, the South Yemen Republic and Ethiopia--only helps Egypt to realize its situation.

At the Cabinet session last Sunday Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman assessed that Egypt, with U.S. assistance, would become the focus of the area. Thus, he suggested that tolerance and understanding be demonstrated toward Egypt and that ways be found for strengthening the relations between the two countries. This assessment could be superficial or practical and promising at the same time. In fact, everything is up to Egypt since Israel is interested in the largest possible scope of normalization (Begin told the Cabinet: "Mere diplomatic relations without cultural, economic and commerce attaches do not constitute normalization...") and its establishment for the sake of the common interests.

The prime minister's forthcoming visit to Egypt will presumably be very interesting from the cultural point of view. He will be shown Egypt's antiquities, the glorious creations of the ancient world. Will this visit also be successful in deepening the political and practical relations?

It seems that no great developments should be expected in the near future. This is so not only because Butrus Ghali creates a linkage between the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and the autonomy; not only because As-Sadat explains that the Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv will have a larger staff when the contacts on the autonomy become more frequent--not only as regards quality but with regard to quantity as well. One should get used to a slow pace regarding the promotion of the normalization process. After all, objectively speaking, it is possible to understand Egypt's special situation--it has a great deal to lose if the "Arab world" decides to conspire against it: There are about 1 million Egyptians in the Arab countries today. Egypt's economic interests depend on the Arab countries--which have so far only recalled their ambassadors, but have not removed their embassies from Cairo--and it has air communications with the Arab world. Obviously, Egypt must watch its steps very carefully.

The question is: Up to which point will As-Sadat be ready to step toward Begin above the common interests and in understanding Israel's situation and to what extent does he expect Israel to show understanding toward Egypt?

BEN-ELISAR COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

TA281735 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1600 GMT 28 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Tel Aviv, 28 Dec--Today, the Director General of the prime minister's office and Ambassador-Designate to Cairo Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar expressed regret that the processes for establishing diplomatic relations are progressing rather slowly on the Egyptian Foreign Ministry's side. "I have no doubt about the fact that the Egyptian president's word will be carried out. But it is a pity that colleagues from the Egyptian Foreign Ministry give us the feeling that this is done slowly," Ben-Elisar said in an appearance at the Tel Aviv engineers' club.

The Israeli ambassador-designate disclosed that Israel had already submitted "an impressive" list to Egypt, containing proposals of appropriate sites for the Egyptian Embassy. The parallel proposals from Egypt, which were to have been submitted to Israel, have not yet been received. Moreover, it has been agreed that each country send an expeditionary team to its counterpart to prepare the buildings for the operation of the embassies. The Israeli team which wanted to go to Cairo has so far been delayed in accordance with Egypt's request that it postpone its departure for technical reasons.

In spite of this, Mr Ben-Elisar believes that "the normalized relations" would start as planned, namely that on 25 January the two embassies--in Israel and in Egypt--would open and on 26 February the two ambassadors would submit their credentials.

The director general of the prime minister's office believes that one can already say that there is "full normalization" between the Egyptian presidency and the Israeli prime minister's office. However, this is not so on the other levels and it is a shame that there are elements in Egypt which are trying to slow down the normalization process and "put spokes in the wheels."

Later, the ambassadorial candidate attacked Israeli groups who, in his opinion, are also hampering the negotiations process. "They are breathing on the back of our necks and incessantly urge us to make concessions while we are trying to bring about achievements." He noted that he was not only referring to members of "Peace Now" but also to voices heard from the Labor Party. Among them well-known diplomats "who know Arabic well." (The speaker merely hinted at, but did not specifically mention, names.)

"Why do they do this? Why do you not understand that it is better to give us a chance and allow us to make efforts and succeed even more?" the spokesman asked emotionally.

Speaking about the autonomy talks, Mr Ben-Elisar expressed his conviction that the Judaea, Samaria and Gaza Arabs would ultimately show a sober attitude and would prefer self-administration to the status quo. He added that Israel is playing a game of cards on the table, stating that it would not agree to have any foreign rule in these parts of the country. There is neither need nor necessity for a Palestinian country to be established; had this been obligatory, it would have jeopardized the Israeli-Arab peace, he said.

On the other hand, even if it were possible to apply Israeli law to Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, these districts should be given self-administration without ever going back to the dividing green line, without stopping the passage of people and goods and without prohibiting Jews from settling in those areas.

The ambassador-designate mentioned the fact that Egypt was the first country to sign the [1949] cease-fire agreement with Israel, followed by the other Arab countries. He expressed his belief that a similar process would take place with respect to signing peace agreements between Israel and its neighbors.

OPPOSITION LEADER PERES DISCUSSES CURRENT ISSUES

TA310848 Jerusalem POST in English 31 Dec 79 p 2 TA

[By Sarah Honig, POST political reporter]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv--Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres yesterday lashed out at the government for again postponing the evacuation of Elon More. "We know that the final decision will not be in the hands of the government, nor of the courts but solely of Gush Emunim," he said. Peres was opening the foreign policy debate in his party's Central Committee, which is deliberating the new platform for the coming Labor convention in May.

Peres accused the government of "four sins" in the Elon More affair. "The courts have made a clear-cut ruling, yet the government allows itself to repeatedly put off the implementation. This in turn damages the government's own image. The Government of Israel must not itself erode its credibility both internally and externally. The government also desecrated the Sabbath twice when work was allowed at the alternative site of Jabal al-Kabir. Is Gush Emunim above religion?" Finally, he argued, the government used IDF helicopters at considerable expense in preparing the Jabal al-Kabir site.

Peres went on to recommend that Israel take unilateral steps to implement the autonomy plan for the West Bank and Gaza, because "should it fail, our situation would be rendered more difficult." He reiterated his desire to see the autonomy plan implemented first in Gaza, "as a first phase," to be followed in Judaea and Samaria.

Peres categorically ruled out negotiations with the PLO, "because that would mean excluding Jordan and giving preference to the creation of a Palestinian state over a Jordanian-Palestinian entity." But Labor is willing to talk to those Palestinians seeking a solution which does not entail Israel's destruction and does not involve terror, Peres said.

He rejected Labor acceptance "of another Palestinian state." "This would mean the redivision of Jerusalem and the return to the nondefensible 1967 frontiers," Peres said. Also out of the question for Labor, according to Peres "is the idea of returning the Gaza Strip to Egypt. There is no logic in moving the international frontier to the gates of Ashkelon," Peres said, rejecting the controversial proposals made recently by MK Avraham Katz-'Oz.

Referring to the feud between hawks and doves in Labor, Peres cautioned against any attempt "to draw maps at this juncture. This is something to be done in negotiations with the other side and we know that an opening position is not necessarily the final stance."

KNESSET STRIKES NO-CONFIDENCE MOTIONS OFF AGENDA

TA021309 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 2 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The Knesset has removed the no-confidence motions submitted against the government on the Elon More issue: 60 coalition Knesset members as well as Knesset members Flatto-Sharon and Moshe Dayan voted against the no-confidence motions, in contrast to 43 opposition members who voted in favor of the motions. Knesset members Ge'ula Kohen, Moshe Shamir and Kalman Kahana abstained. Moshe Dayan was the last to speak. He said Elon More should not have been built on Jabal al-Kabir, but he would vote for the government so as not to give the impression that he is opposed to settlement in the territories in general.

REGIONAL COUNCIL ESTABLISHED FOR JORDAN VALLEY SETTLEMENTS

TA021858 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 2 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Another boost for Jewish settlement in the Jordan Valley: A regional council has been set up for the Jordan rift--the southern part of the valley. Present at the ceremony were Interior Minister Burg, Regional Commander Moshe Levi and Zionist Organization Settlement Department head Mati Drobles. Just back from the event near Moshav Argaman is reporter Daniyel Gavron. [Begin recording]

[Gavron] This is the sixth Jewish council in Judaea and Samaria, but it is the first of them to have territorial continuity. It stretches from Bet She'an down as far as Jericho. The council was formally nominated today by the Interior Ministry, with one member of each of the 16 settlements on it. Disclosing that at present some 2,500 people live in the region, Jewish Agency settlement head Mati Drobles said the aim is to bring the population to 10,000 in the shortest possible time.

I asked Interior Minister Yosef Burg whether the new council was the same as any other Israeli regional council?

[Answer] I could say yes, if I look on the functions; I could say no because there is something new in a region where the formal government is conducted by the military government.

[Question] Dr Burg, as the head of the autonomy negotations, do you see any difficulties in your talks with the Egyptians and the Americans as a result of what you did here today: declaring this new council?

[Answer] Surely not, because our discussion is not about regional councils; our discussion is about Eretz Yisra'el as such. We believe that the borders of 1967 are dead. We believe that there should not be a Palestinian state here. We believe--I personally, also according to the guidelines of the government--that here, and this is the real target of the autonomy talks, we will have to live together in coexistence. Coexistence means togetherness, and therefore I said I would be very happy if I could be helpful also in putting up, setting up, regional councils for the Arab population.

[Question] Was this really an operative suggestion? You would be prepared to go through with this--helping the Arabs set up their councils?

[Answer] With pleasure, we invited them also to come to the autonomy talks, but without an echo until today. But you should never lose your optimism.

[Question] Will today's ceremony encourage them to come to the autonomy talks?

[Answer] I hope at least it will not deter them. (end recording)

[Announcer] At its first public session, the new council unanimously elected Yisra'el Nedivi as its first council chairman. Nedivi at once called on the government to make the whole southern Jordan Valley a part of Israel in every sense of the word. If that means annexation or a change in the law, he declared, this must be done.

WORK BEGINS ON HARSINA HILL UNDER IDF SURVEILLANCE

TA012030 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 1 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Construction on a new Qiryat Arba' neighborhood began this evening on Harsina Hill. A tractor began to break ground under the surveillance of IDF soldiers. Preparation of the land will begin tomorrow morning. This land has been defined as state land. However, several inhabitants of the neighboring village of Bani Na'im claim they are the owners of the land. The military committee will allow them to appeal to a military committee.

BRIEFS

SOVIET EMIGRATION FIGURE NOTED--Since the Soviet Union has opened its borders to Jewish emigration, 155,000 people have arrived in Israel. This has been reported by the chairman of the Jewish Agency's Executive, Arye Dulzin, at a meeting of the Israeli Executive Center in Jerusalem. He also said that every month Israel submits about 16,000 requests for family reunions. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 28 Dec 79 TA]

EXPORT, TOURISM FIGURES CITED--Industry Minister Gid'on Pat says Israel will export goods worth $5.25 billion next year--about $1 billion more than in 1979. Speaking in Haifa, Pat said 1.2 million tourists came to Israel this year. He stressed that the development of a tourist infrastructure would increase the number of visitors to Israel. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Dec 79 TA]

AFGHANISTAN

AFP REPORTS SOVIET TROOPS ACTIVITIES IN PAKTIA, KABUL

BK021452 Hong Kong AFP in English 1448 GMT 2 Jan 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 2 (AFP)--A crack division of Soviet troops today launched an all out attack on the rebel stronghold of Paktia, about 150 km (95 miles) from Kabul, Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

A Kabul-datelined dispatch from the agency's correspondent said that the Soviet troops consisted of 10,000 men and were backed by heavy armour and air force. The Soviet troops left the Afghan capital before dawn to launch the attack on Paktia, said to be a stronghold of the rebels. More Soviet troops were pouring into Afghanistan, the agency said, quoting "highly reliable" sources there. The troops were fanning out of the rugged countryside to crush the rebels.

About the situation in Kabul itself, the agency said that the Soviet troops stationed in the Afghan capital appeared to be in full control, backed by a formidable armada of tanks and aircraft.

However; Kabul was still tense.

The Soviet troops were guarding all vital installations, including the Kabul international airport which was reopened to commerical international flights today after being sealed at the weekend. The Russians were, the agency said, manning check points outside the airport and at a few other places. "The Soviets run the show here completely," an Afghan national was quoted as saying.

The presidential palace and the office of the prime minister were the two places in Kabul where Soviet tank formations were concentrated.

Reporters back from Kabul said the new government of president Babrak Karmal was still functioning from the building housing the state radio, one week after the coup that killed President Hafizullah Amin.

After five days of speculation about his whereabouts, Mr. Karmal made his first appearance on Kabul television last night, flanked by members of his new Revolutionary Council, the reporters said.

70 Soviet Soldiers Killed

NC021534 Paris AFP in English 1530 GMT 2 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, 2 Jan (AFP)--Seventy Soviet soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan since last week's coup, including several who died in a clash with Moslems after an Islamic teacher was arrested for urging holy war on the new regime, according to reports here today.

Travelers from Kabul arriving in this town on the Afghan border also said that the Soviet troops had little idea why they were sent to Afghanistan, but they found themselves the frequent targets of insults from local residents.

Guerrilla sources in Peshawar, which is headquarters for Afghans fighting [word indistinct] Marxist regimes in their country, said that several incidents of violence had erupted between Soviet forces and Afghans in Kabul. They said the most serious was touched off yesterday at a mosque where an Islamic teacher was arrested by Soviet soldiers for calling on his students to wage a "jihad," or holy war, against communism.

A battle erupted between the Soviet troops and Moslem worshipers at the mosque, leaving several people dead on both sides. The mosque was reportedly closed by Soviet military authorities.

The guerrilla sources said that heavy fighting broke out after the coup last Thursday that ousted Afghan strongman Hafizollah Amin. They said that overall, 70 Soviet soldiers had died since the takeover that brought to power Babrak Karmal.

Soviet troops reportedly controlled the capital and several key provincial towns, including Jalalabad in the south and Herat in the west, the sources said. They said the Soviets also controlled several small towns in the north.

AFGHAN ARMY TROOPS DISARMED IN KABUL, FIGHTING ELSEWHERE

TA021538 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 2 Jan 80 TA

[From "Radio Newsreel"]

[Excerpts] Now, Afghanistan. While the protests against the Soviet intervention go on, here is Mark Tulley in Delhi:

[Begin recording] Meanwhile, reports from Afghanistan itself are scanty, diplomatic sources in Delhi stress that Russian control of the capital is not being contested in any meaningful way. There's no confirmation of claims by Afghan rebels of an armored Soviet offensive against them in Badakhshan Province in the northeast. Diplomats in Delhi say there are unconfirmed reports that some units of the Afghan forces in Kabul have been disarmed and confined to barracks. There are also reports that Afghan troops outside Kabul refuse to obey Soviet officers. It seems unlikely, however, that the Afghan Army will be able to put up a coordinated resistance to the Soviet forces. On the other hand, it seems certain that the Russian Army will now have to take over the war against the Muslim rebels. The Soviet military presence, either on the Afghan border or inside Afghanistan, is now believed to be as large, if not larger, than the whole of the Afghan Army. Mark Tulley, BBC, Delhi. [end recording]

REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN REPORT ON SITUATION IN KABUL

NC021855 Paris AFP in English 1849 GMT 2 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Islamabad, 2 Jan (AFP)--More than 3,000 Afghans were killed in the first 48 hours of fighting between Soviet and Afghan troops loyal to the late president Hafizollah Amin, according to refugees arriving in Pakistan today.

An eyewitness told AGENCE-PRESSE he had counted about 60 trucks loaded with military corpses emerging from the Darulaman redoubt south of Kabul where Amin had been entrenched with his troops. The refugees reported seeing numerous tanks on the Kabul-Torkham highway heading for the Pakistan frontier.

They added that the neutralisation of Afghan forces by Soviet troops had resulted in fighting in every barracks.

Meanwhile Soviet troops were in complete charge of Kabul and the Afghan authorities were no longer issuing the passports indispensable for leaving the country. The refugees said the Soviet troops had made many arrests, particularly in the university and in the ministries.

On the other hand, despite the promises of the new president, Babrak Karmal, no political prisoner, excepting a few members of his own Parcham (Flag) Party, had been liberated in Kabul by last night, the refugees said.

SOVIETS SHIFTING TROOPS FROM KABUL TO PROVINCES

BK030916 Hong Kong AFP in English 0844 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpts] New Delhi, 3 Jan (AFP)--Soviet troops in Afghanistan were reported today to be streaming into Jalalabad and other key provincial centers in a move that analysts here said reflected a drive to take over the rugged, remote country "lock, stock and barrel." The reports said the Soviets, now in full control of the capital Kabul, were thinning out their forces there in order to consolidate positions in the countryside following the Moscow-engineered coup one week ago.

One unconfirmed report said use of the Soviet ruble was gradually replacing Afghanistan's own currency, the Afghani, because of the pervasiveness of Russian troops.

The Afghan Army, which many have once numberd up to 80,000 men, is generally understood to be shattered, possibly disarmed and apparently still confined to barracks in most places.

Well-informed diplomatic sources were said Soviet tanks and support vehicles had been leaving Kabul in the past 48 hours, significantly reducing the Soviet presence there which had been estimated at up to 15,000 men. The report dovetailed with accounts of a lower Soviet profile in and around Kabul brought back by foreign correspondents who returned here last night, the latest to be refused entry into Afghanistan on grounds that their safety could not be ensured.

The diplomatic sources here said Soviet vehicles had been arriving in Jalalabad, near the Pakistani border in the east, and in other key provincial centers including Herat, near the border with Iran in the West. But the returning reporters, who had been sent back on the first flight out of the landlocked Asian state, made it clear the Soviets were still controlling all strategic points in Kabul, notably the presidential palace and the radio station.

PAP REPORTS SITUATION IN KABUL BACK TO NORMAL

LD022152 Warsaw PAP in English 2100 GMT 2 Jan 80 LD

[By PAP special correspondent Ryszard Piekarowicz]

[Text] PAP, Kabul, 2 Jan--Life in Kabul goes on as usual already and the new Afghan leadership is undertaking steps--as it has been officially defined--to put the revolution onto the right track in the shortest time possible.

The 1st of January was an ordinary day in Kabul since the new Afghan year begins in March. Banks, offices and shops were open from the early morning hours and children were at school as on any other day.

After December 27, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan has changed its name to the Afghan People's Democratic Unity Party to emphasize that its ranks embrace all shades of the revolutionary and progressive forces. The Afghan leadership represents majority of the parties of the first period that followed the April Revolution of 1978. Virtually all members of the new authorities were in the government of Nur Mohammad Taraki and sat on his Revolutionary Council.

Representatives of the new authorities stress that one of the most important tasks facing the revolution is to regain confidence of those circles which turned away because of past deformations.

1st of January marked the 15th anniversary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. Meetings of party organizations were held here on this occasion. On the same day, the Kabul daily papers resumed publication after a 5-day break. To mark the weight of the latest changes in the party and the leading bodies of the revolution, the dailies appeared under different names.

On behalf of the Afghan Moslems, chairman of the council of ulema (senior Moslem clergy) Abdol Aziz Seddiq expressed deep satisfaction at putting an end to Hafizollah Amin's rule and assured that the Afghan nation is determined to follow the road mapped out by the April Revolution. At the same time he expressed his deep sorrow over the fact that right at the time of great reconstruction of Afghanistan, imperialism is launching a propaganda offensive against that country under the pretext of "defending the freedom of a Moslem nation".

AFP: NO WORD ON FOREIGN NEWSMEN ATTEMPTING TO LAND AT KABUL

BK020428 Hong Kong AFP in English 0423 GMT 2 Jan 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 2 Jan (AFP)--There was still no word here early today on the situation of the last planeload of foreign correspondents to try to enter Kabul, where telephone and telex lines to the outside have been cut since the 27 Dec coup.

The newsmen arrived last night abroad an Ariana Afghan Airways flight from London that had been diverted to New Delhi on Monday, ostensibly because of hazardous landing conditions. Meanwhile, the regularly scheduled flight to Kabul from New Delhi was postponed today, possibly a prelude to cancellation for the third day running. Airline officials here cited the uncertain political situation.

(The flight, Indian Airlines [IA] 451, originally scheduled to leave for Kabul at 7 am local time, was rescheduled for departure at noon, returning here tonight as IA 452, some time after 6 pm.)

In reopening Kabul's mile-high airport on Sunday, the Afghan authorities refused entry to the first arriving Western correspondents citing what they called their inability to guarantee the safety of foreigners.

Correspondents Turned Back Again

BK021518 Hong Kong AFP in English 1511 GMT 2 Jan 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 2 Jan (AFP)--The new Afghan authorities have turned (?back) Western correspondents at the Kabul airport again, returning reporters said here today.

Among those sent back on a dusk flight to New Delhi were correspondents from the United States, France, Japan and Britain. Some of the correspondents had spent the night at Kabul intercontinental hotel under a loose Afghan guard. They said they had been treated well.

INTERVIEWS WITH PARTICIPANTS IN CRISIS

Dutch Resident in Kabul

OW030222 Hong Kong AFP in English 0217 GMT 3 Jan 80 OW

[Text] Amsterdam, 3 Jan (AFP)--Before the 27 Dec coup d'etat in Afghanistan, many Soviet advisers were regularly being killed, apparently by Moslem rebels, a Dutch resident of Afghanistan said Wednesday after arriving here aboard an Ariana (Afghan airline flight.

Andre van der Zon, 31, a Dutch agricultural expert, said that foreign residents in Afghanistan were advised to leave their (?homes) as little as possible and never to go out at night or leave major highways. "The first signs of the coup came on the night of Dec 25 and above all during the following day," said Mr van der Zon, who lived near Kabul airport. "The continuous arrivals of big Soviet planes kept us awake," he said.

Foreigners in Kabul believe that former "President (Hafizollah) Amin had asked the Soviets for help in crushing the Moslem rebellion without foreseeing it would work against him," Mr van der Zon said. "All the Afghans are fighting the Soviets, but they are also continuing to kill each other," he added.

He said a list of 12,000 people executed for subversion was posted in early December in Kabul. "So many people (wanted to) check the list that officials decided to distribute copies in the villages." he said.

On Dec 28, he said, Soviets patrolled alone in the capital streets. But their presence then diminished, possible because of troop shipments to the Iranian and Pakistani frontiers. "There was no panic, no looting, no shortage of food," he said. "We lacked only tanks of butane gas because the tanks come from Pakistan." "The post office in Kabul is in ruins, the presidential palace was burned, but there is no other noticeable damage in the city. Nobody dares go out at night," he said. Mr van der Zon said he was on annual vacation.

Envoy to Bonn

DW020949 Hamburg ARD Television Network in German 2130 GMT 28 Dec 79 DW

[Cornelius Bormann interview in Bonn with Nazar Mohammad, ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the Federal Republic of Germany--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Karmal, the new president, has been put into office with the help of the Soviets.

[Answer] No, what this involves is help we had requested, help which the Soviet Union, our great neighbor, let us have.

[Question] But about 5,000 Soviet soldiers dispatched to Afghanistan participated in the fighting during the past several days. After all, this is Soviet interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

[Answer] The Soviets did not participate in the fighting. They have been staying in our country to protect us against hostile neighbor states.

[Question] Is Iran among these enemies?

[Answer] Some opponents of the revolution in Afghanistan have been supported from Iran from the very outset. Iran has sought to intrude in our internal affairs. Some 4,000 Iranian soldiers wearing Afghan uniforms were sent into our country to launch provocations and to cause trouble.

[Question] What are the differences between the former and the incumbent presidents of Afghanistan?

[Answer] The government is the same.

[Question] So why was President Amin killed?

[Answer] Because of his mistakes. He himself killed so many people; this is why he was killed.

Former Afghan Diplomat

LD021701 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 2 Jan 80 LD

[Interview with former Afghan diplomat (Watan Pol) by Paris radio correspondent Claude Guillaumen in Paris on 2 January--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr (Watan Pol), you are a member of the Islamic Council for the Rescue of Afghanistan, a former diplomat who has taken refuge in Europe, and the first question I would like to ask you is about the situation in your country. I should first of all like to ask you how you see the situation now, 4 days after the intervention of Soviet forces in your country?

[Answer] First of all, I should like to thank Paris radio for giving one of the members of the Islamic Council for the Rescue of Afghanistan the opportunity to give his point of view on the tragic events shaking my country and the whole of this important region of the world. You know that this flagrant violation, this aggression by the Soviet Union against the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan is in our opinion unjust, illegal and dangerous. It is, firstly, an unjust action: Afghanistan was, I don't know if you are aware of this, the first country to recognize the October Revolution. We have since 1917 tried to maintain excellent relations with the Soviet Union. We have never joined any alliance or military pact which was hostile to the Soviet Union, even in the worst moments of the cold war. Seventy percent of our foreign trade was with the Soviet Union; we sold our natural gas to the Soviet Union at a third of the world price. Our army was trained and equipped by the Soviet Union. We purchased all our arms from the Soviet Union. We were a truly nonalined country, and the Afghan people are really surprised by this flagrant aggression by the Soviet Union.

[Question] In your opinion, why has the Soviet Union replaced a pro-Soviet government with another, even more pro-Soviet government, through direct military intervention?

[Answer] We think that if the Soviet Union intervened directly in Afghanistan with 30,000 soldiers, this is because the Amin regime has really been rejected and spewed out by the Afghan people. It was on the point of being overthrown by the Afghan opposition forces.

[Question] But in favor of what sort of regime?

[Answer] Certainly in favor of an Islamic regime, since as you know Afghanistan is 99 percent Muslim.

[Question] What you mean is that the Soviet Union wanted to avoid the same thing happening in Afghanistan as happened finally in Iran?

[Answer] One really should not compare the situation in Iran with that in Afghanistan. As you know, the majority of the population in Afghanistan is of the Sunni religion, and there is no religious hierarchy in Afghanistan. So, a religious dictatorship is not conceivable, is not possible in Afghanistan.

[Question] Well, I'll return to current events. I believe that, despite the Soviet intervention, there is still an Afghan opposition. What is its importance? What does it represent? Can it really do something against the tanks, aircraft, and Soviet troops who, as you said earlier, probably number about 40,000 according to the information which we have received?

[Answer] I think that history has shown that it is difficult to subdue a people. When a people does not want to accept a regime, it can always do something. A short while ago I heard that commentators are claiming that with 40,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan now, the Afghan opposition is finished. I can assure you that this invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet troops will make the Afghan population more motivated to resist. Not only will they continue to resist, but they will increase their efforts to do their utmost to reject this Soviet intervention.

[Question] Yes, but in order to increasingly resist in the face of opponents who are becoming stronger and stronger, Mr (Watan Pol), you need support, you need to be armed. Good words and phrases are not enough; you need arms; you need to be able to fight. Where could this material and other support come from?

[Answer] The Afghan people started this struggle against the regimes representing foreigners and foreign interests in Afghanistan empty-handed. At the moment, if you were to go to where Afghans are fighting against the Marxist regimes, all the arms would be marked "Made in USSR." That is to say, the Afghans have recovered arms from the soldiers, and also a large part of the Afghan Army has deserted and joined the opposition forces. Thus, at the moment we are using Soviet arms against the Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan.

[Question] Do you think that other support from neighboring countries is possible -- for example, one thinks naturally of Pakistan?

[Answer] What is happening in Afghanistan is not an issue limited to a single country with 17 million inhabitants, a country without a coastline, one which is little known in the world. What is happening in Afghanistan has a very important influence on all Muslim countries as well as the whole of the West and even on world peace. If the Soviet Union has occupied Afghanistan, it has not done so because of Afghanistan. Its aim is to dominate the whole of the Middle East, the whole of this region, which is very rich in energy.

[Question] Do you believe that the Soviets will leave as soon as the situation is settled in their eyes, as they have promised? Or does Afghanistan run the risk of being a country in the Soviet zone, in the Soviet zone of influence?

[Answer] What is certain, as you will see in the coming days, is that the Afghans are going to increase their efforts to combat this regime. But the Afghan people is in no way the enemy of the Soviet people, and the Islamic Council for the Rescue of Afgahnistan stipulates in its programs that once this puppet regime is overthrown we shall have a government which is representative of the Afghan people and we shall have excellent relations with all our neighbors, including the Soviet Union. I think the (tiny) Afghan Communist Party has done a lot of harm to the interests of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, and has created an extraordinary anti-Soviet sentiment which did not exist before.

Rebel Leader

LD021004 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 2 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpt] And now to Afghanistan: The Red Army hasn't quite got the situation in hand. The Soviet troops are being harassed by soldiers of former President Amin. Apparently the Afghan opposition appears to be structured even if it has few means at its disposal, as a leader of the liberation front, who is currently in Paris, explains at the microphone of [name indistinct].

[Begin unnamed Afghan opposition leader recording] The Afghan people are determined to fight to the end but they have to face the reality that, on the one hand, is a power like Russia and, on the other, the opposition which is fighting with rudimentary means. I believe that if we succeed in getting the means, Russia will never succeed in carrying out its plans. And we do not want to see will we be capable or not? [sentence as heard] We are determined to go right to the end and we are saying that to the whole world. If the Russians eliminate and exterminate us, it is the responsibility of all the free and Muslim peoples of the world. [end recording]

BANGLADESH

MUSLIM STUDENTS HOLD ANTI-SOVIET DEMONSTRATION IN DACCA

BK011616 Hong Kong AFP in English 1533 GMT 1 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Dacca, 1 Jan (AFP)--About 1,000 demonstrators belonging to the student wing of the rightist political party Jamat-e-Islami this evening held a demonstration against Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

The demonstrators, carrying banners and placards and chanting anti-Soviet slogans, paraded through the city streets after holding a brief rally near Baitul Mukarram mosque.

Some of the demonstrators pelted stones at the office of pro-Moscow Communist Party CPB in central Dacca.

No report of injury or damage of property was available immediately.

The demonstrators shouted slogans including "Down With Soviet Social Imperialism" and "Withdraw Soviet Troops from Afghanistan" before dispersing from the road near the National Press Club.

This is the first anti-Soviet demonstration in Dacca since last week's Russian intervention in Kabul. Bangladesh Government yesterday expressed deep concern at developments in Afghanistan and demanded "immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops" from that country.

A number of rightist political parties and their leaders including Khan A. Sabur of the Muslim League issued statements to the press strongly condemning Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and calling for immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Kabul.

DACCA RADIO CONFIRMS MAUDUD AHMED 'RELIEVED' FROM OFFICE

BK021254 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Mr Maudud Ahmed, the deputy prime minister and minister for power, water resources and flood control, has been relieved from his office. Kazi Anwarul Haq will be in charge of the Ministry of Power, Water Resources and Flood Control in addition to the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism. This was officially announced in Dacca today.

INDIA

DELHI: SINGH REPLIES TO CARTER'S LETTER ON AFGHAN SITUATION

BK021600 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Prime Minister Charan Singh has sent his reply to U.S. President Carter's letter of Sunday on the developments in Afghanistan and related matters. The reply was dispatched last night.

'30 to 40 PERCENT' TURNOUT ON 1ST

BK030953 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpts] According to latest reports there has been about 30 to 40 percent turnout of voters in most of the constituencies that went to the polls in the first round of the Lok Sabha poll today. The polling, which began on a dull note, picked up later as the day advanced. Because of inclement weather the turnout of voters was poor in most of the northern states. Polling was brisk in Maharashtra and the southern states where the weather was bright. Two hundred forty-three constituencies spread over 18 states and 9 union territories are involved in the polling today. Reports from different parts of the country say that voting has so far been very peaceful. There has been long queues of voters before the polling booths.

In Delhi, despite biting cold and inclement weather, polling has been brisk in all the seven Lok Sabha constituencies. According to the police, no untoward incident was reported from any of the seven constituencies in the union territory till noon today. But in the rural areas, the polling was about 15 percent.

The U.P. [Uttar Pradesh] turnout of voters was brisk in most places in the first few hours. Fifteen Lok Sabha constituencies are involved in today's poll. The coldwave sweeping the state and the heavy snowfall in the hilly areas dampened all the election excitement. There has been no report of any violence in any part of the state.

In Maharashtra, about 25 percent of the 18,000,000 voters in 26 Lok Sabha constituencies are reported to have cast their votes so far. Polling was brisk in the labor areas and in several constituencies in Bombay, Satara, Sangli, Thane and Nagpur.

In Nagaland over 40 percent of the 450,000 electorate exercised their franchise by mid-day today.

In Tamil Nadu, polling in the 19 Lok Sabha constituencies began on a brisk note this morning. After 11 am [0530 GMT] 15 to 20 percent of the votes were polled. Polling was brisk in the urban areas and was picking up momentum in the villages.

In Karnataka, polling picked up as the day brightened. About 10 percent of the votes are reported to have been cast in the early hours.

In Gujarat, the former prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, was among the early voters to cast their franchise. Polling in the state is being held today in 13 of the 26 constituencies.

In Assam, polling started on a dull note in Karimganj.

In the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, polling has been brisk. Large numbers of voters were found lining up in front of 222 booths.

There has also been brisk in Chandigarh. Reports of moderate to heavy polling have also come in from Orissa, Kerala, Andhra, Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar and Rajasthan.

PAKISTAN

HAQ APPEALS FOR DONATIONS FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES

BK021624 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Jan 80 BK

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has again called upon philanthropists and welfare institutions to generously donate for their Afghan refugee brethren. He was speaking on the occasion of presentation of 1,000 quilts for Afghan refugees by the soldiers foundation today. The president said that the number of Afghan refugees had risen to 400,000. Neighboring Muslim states, other friendly countries and the UN agencies were cooperating with Pakistan to assist these shelterless refugees. But it was a stupendous task and it was difficult to find resources to look after such a huge number of refugees especially in winter.

He said even meager contributions could be of great help as it would help in redressing difficulties faced by refugees.

The quilts were presented by retired Maj Gen Rao Farman Ali on behalf of the foundation.

SRI LANKA

AFP: CABINET DISCUSSES AFGHAN SITUATION

BK030855 Hong Kong AFP in English 0948 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Colombo, 3 Jan (AFP)--The Sri Lanka cabinet today discussed the situation in Afghanistan in regard to the presence of Soviet troops in that country, an official spokesman said.

The cabinet at its weekly meeting decided that the foreign minister A.C.S. Hameed should discuss the matter immediately with the Soviet ambassador, the spokesman said.

The government will issue a statement containing Sri Lanka's position on the matter after the foreign minister meets the Soviet ambassador, he said. Foreign Ministry sources said the meeting was likely to take place this evening.

The Soviet ambassador, Mr Alesey S. Pasyutin, saw Sri Lanka's deputy foreign minister, Mr Tyronne Fernando, last Monday [31 December] and said his government had sent limited military contingents to Afghanistan at the request of the Afghanistan leadership.